

Turkey denies U.S. buildup for Gulf

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Monday denied a West German press report that the United States had sent extra warplanes here for possible intervention in the Iran-Iraq war. A senior government official said some F-111 bombers were currently in Turkey for a routine bombing exercise at a range of 1,000 km. to Konya, central Anatolia. Referring to a report in the West German weekly *Der Spiegel* that three squadrons of planes were here to prepare for possible intervention in the Gulf, he said: "It's not true." The official said the F-111s were flying from the giant Incirlik Base in southern Turkey where two squadrons of the 401st tactical fighter wing are permanently based. These changed last year to F-16 Fighting Falcons from F-4 Phantoms, meaning an increase to 48 from 36 aircraft since a squadron of Falcons comprises 24. The official would not say how long the F-111s would be in Turkey.

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Gulf war escalation worries Saudis

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia Monday voiced concern over recent military developments in the region and said it would use all its potential to defend its territory. Information Minister Ali Hassan Al Shaer quoted King Fahd as saying after a regular cabinet meeting: "There is no doubt the current military events (are) a source of concern," the official Saudi Press Agency reported. "The situation has negative impacts on the security and stability of the region," King Fahd said. The Saudi monarch was apparently referring to recent escalation of the Iran-Iraq war, with Iranian forces launching attacks on Basra, Iraq's second largest city. "Although our policy is not to cause any damage to any country in the region we would defend our holy cities and territories using all the potential we have," King Fahd was quoted as saying.

Rifai meets with audit bureau chief

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Monday received the audit bureau president Dr. Hashem Al Dabbas and discussed a number of issues related to revising the bureau's law with the aim of developing its work. Also on Monday Mr. Rifai received the Amman Development Corporation (ADC) President Sami Al Rashid. During the meeting they discussed a number of issues related to the ADC affairs.

Shepherd finds 26 kg of opium

AMMAN (Petra) — A shepherd has found 26 kilograms of unprocessed opium which were buried east of Mafrag city. The concerned authorities have started investigations into the matter.

Abdul Meguid meets Jordanian students

CAIRO (Petra) — The Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Dr. Esmat Abdul Meguid, on Monday met a delegation of students from the University of Jordan who are currently on a visit to Cairo. During the meeting Dr. Abdul Meguid explained the principles and goals of Egypt's foreign policy which is based on support of Arab causes. He also spoke about the development of close relations between Jordan and Egypt, praising the continuing coordination between His Majesty King Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak.

Envoy says U.S. seeks Gulf stability

CAIRO (R) — U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Frank Wisner said Monday that Washington's arms sale to Iran had been a one-time affair and his country sought stability in the Gulf region. "We want there to be an end to the war between Iran and Iraq. We want stability in the Gulf and we particularly want our friends in this region, this country, one of our best friends, to be secure," Mr. Wisner said.

Nigerian leader not to attend OIC summit

LAGOS (R) — Nigerian leader General Ibrahim Babangida, whose country is sharply divided over membership of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), will not attend the group's summit next week in Kuwait, an official spokesman said Monday.

Bologna blast trial adjourned

BOLOGNA, Italy (AP) — The trial of 20 people charged with the bombing of the Bologna train station opened Monday with a brief procedural discussion and then was adjourned until March 2. Only two of the defendants charged in the Aug. 2, 1980, bombing that killed 85 and wounded 200 were in court.

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Iraq says sizeable Iranian attack on Basra repelled

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Monday its forces had repelled a sizeable overnight Iranian attack south east of Basra, inflicting heavy losses and preventing the Iranians from gaining territory.

A High Command communiqué said eight Iranian Revolutionary Guards brigades launched the attack at 7:30 p.m. Sunday night (1630 GMT Sunday) against positions held by three Iraqi brigades south east of Fish Lake, 10 kilometres from Basra — Iraq's second largest city with a population of one million.

The communiqué said: "Our forces remained steadfast in their positions harvesting the constant waves of the attacking forces (and) having full control of the battlefield."

The communiqué said the Iranians were continuing their attacks although they had only 30,000 to 40,000 men of the Revolutionary Guards left of the force which initiated the attack. It did not say how many there were

originally.

The communiqué said Iraqi warplanes flew 390 sorties in support of ground forces and against Iranian troops, while helicopter gunships flew 166 combat missions.

It said the warplanes attacked the Iranian towns and cities of Dezful, Tabriz, Esfahan, Qom, Kermanshah (Bakhtaran), Shahabad (Islamabad Gharb) and a military camp and ammunition depots in the north western town of Saqqez.

It said Iraqi naval units destroyed and sank an Iranian command ship, without giving further details.

Residents of Basra said the government was assisting people wanting to seek safety outside the range of Iranian artillery, which

was bombarding the city of one million population almost daily for several months.

Diplomats in Baghdad said foreign companies had temporarily most of their staff to the capital.

President Saddam Hussein presided over a joint meeting Sunday night of the Revolutionary Command Council and the regional command of the ruling Baath Party.

The Iraqi News Agency INA said they discussed the fighting on the central and southern war fronts and analysed military and political aspects of the battles.

It was Mr. Hussein's second major review of the fighting in two nights.

INA said he talked by telephone Sunday night with King Hussein and Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak.

The Iraqi leader "reaffirmed Iraq's ability to destroy the evil intentions of Iranian rulers against Iraq..." the agency reported.

On the southern front, Brig.-Gen. Abed Shmarai Al Rabbat, a divisional commander

with the Third Army Corps defending Basra, said Iraqi troops had "completed their preparations to destroy the Iranian forces, which thought they were able to threaten the independence of Iraq."

A high-ranking military official Sunday denied Tehran reports that Iranian troops had reached the outskirts of Basra.

Brig. Rabbat said his troops Sunday night repulsed three Iranian attempts to break through their defences east of Basra.

"Our forces destroyed 11 Khomeini (Revolutionary) Guards divisions and four regular army brigades, including an armoured one from Division 29," he said.

Iraq said Monday it had launched a new phase in its drive towards the southern Iraqi port of Basra.

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White House reportedly ignored string of warnings about Iran arms sales

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The New York Times Monday published a secret staff report of the Senate Intelligence Committee which said the White House ignored a year-long string of warnings about its arms sales to Iran.

The newspaper quotes the report as saying the Reagan administration was given a number of internal warnings the arms sales were based on faulty information, dependent on unreliable middlemen and likely to fall short of intended goals.

The report concluded the administration violated several laws and procedures for monitoring undercover operations, the newspaper said.

The document has not been made public officially. President Reagan had urged previously that the committee make its report public.

The New York Times quoted David Holliday, a spokesman for the committee, as saying the disclosure of the contents of the report was irresponsible.

He said some staff members objected to the report because they felt its conclusions were not supported by the evidence and because there were inaccuracies in it. He declined to identify the inaccuracies.

Mr. Holliday told the newspaper the intelligence committee is rewriting the report and would turn it over to the Senate Select Committee investigating the affair.

The report details warnings to the White House by former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and others that the Iran venture was risky.

It says Mr. McFarlane warned in December 1985 that the initiative was not working and that Manucher Ghorbanifar, the Iranian who acted as middleman in the deal, "could not be trusted."

The report also said the intelligence committee has "obtained no specific evidence" that anyone beyond former National Security Adviser John Poindexter and his dismissed aide, Lt. Col. Oliver North, knew of the controversial "plan to divert Iranian arms profits to the contra

complete his work. Legal sources say Mr. Walsh will continue to operate after the congressional investigations have ended.

Mr. Walsh is working out of temporary quarters on the first floor of the U.S. district court at the foot of Capitol Hill.

Last month, he was given a broad mandate by a panel of federal appeals court judges to investigate the Iranian arms deal as well as other U.S. aid to the contras.

He has so far appointed 15 associate counsels, lawyers who will do much of the investigating with the help of a team of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents.

They are looking at various aspects of the sale of weapons to Iran through Israeli middlemen and the funneling of some of the proceeds to help the U.S.-backed contra rebels fighting to topple the leftist Nicaraguan government.

The various investigations are progressing as follows:

The presidential review board named by Mr. Reagan to investigate the role of his National Security Council will be the first to finish. The executive order establishing the board, headed by former Texas Sen. John Tower, gave it until Jan. 29 to complete its work.

A spokesman said the board, with a staff of about 15, had talked to about 25 people and would perhaps talk to 25 more before writing its report and delivering it to Mr. Reagan, who has promised to make it public.

Sen. Daniel Inouye, chairman of the special Senate committee, has said his panel is expected to take until autumn to complete its probe.

Congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of the special House of Representatives committee, has given no timetable for his inquiries.

The independent prosecutor, Lawrence Walsh, is still getting organised, and has no deadline by

Ecevit: Turkey is still undemocratic

ANKARA (R) — Former Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit, facing a jail term for making political speeches, said Monday Turkey was still undemocratic and effectively under military control.

Talking to reporters after a solidarity visit to him by members of the Democratic Left Party (DLP), which is headed by his wife Rahsan, Mr. Ecevit said Turkey would never be seen as a country under civilian rule while the 1982 constitution was in effect.

"My opinion is that Turkey not only is an undemocratic country but also is not under civilian rule," Mr. Ecevit said.

The military toppled a civilian

government in 1980, returning government to civilians, with the new constitution, after November 1983 elections.

Mr. Ecevit, three times prime minister in the 1970's, said that while some military leaders were not keen to become involved in affairs of state "with this constitution they are forced to get involved in politics."

Mr. Ecevit was sentenced in his absence to a jail term of 11 months and 20 days by a court at the western town of Borsova last month for violating a ban on his involvement in party politics until 1992. He has said he was informed of the conviction only three days

ago. Under an article in the constitution he could be banned for life from politics if his appeal is rejected.

Mr. Ecevit faces about 100 similar charges arising from speeches he made at DLP rallies during a by-election campaign.

He criticised state radio and television (TRT) for calling him a convict in its news reports and said it should have made clear what his previous convictions were.

Mr. Ecevit was twice jailed during military rule between 1980-83 for violating restrictions on former politicians.

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Kidnappers of German 'seek TWA suspect's freedom'

BONN (R) — The kidnappers of a West German businessman in Beirut appear to have taken him as a hostage to win the freedom of a suspected Lebanese hijacker arrested last week in Frankfurt, a senior West German politician said Monday.

Hans Stercken, chairman of parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, said the unknown kidnappers had seized Rudolf Cordes on Saturday in an attempt to prevent the possible extradition of hijack suspect Mohammad Ali Hamadie to the United States.

Cordes is the first West German to be held in kidnap in the war-torn Lebanon capital.

The U.S. Justice Department

said Sunday it had agreed not to seek the death penalty for Hamadie, who is suspected to have taken part in the June 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner to Beirut, thus clearing the way for his extradition from West Germany.

Bonn refuses to extradite suspects to countries where they would face execution if found guilty of a crime.

The United States wants to try Hamadie for air piracy and the murder of a passenger, U.S. Navy diver Robert Stehenn, who was killed during the 17-day hijacking.

Mr. Stercken told a radio interviewer he wanted the authorities to examine Syria's role in the abduction of Cordes, the manager of the Hoechst chemical company in Lebanon.

He said he speed and efficiency with which the kidnappers had seized Cordes so soon after the arrest of Hamadie suggested support and encouragement for the assailants, who have not yet made any demands for the businessman's release.

In Beirut, Shi'ite Muslim militia sources told Reuters their men were searching for Cordes.

A source familiar with the investigation, speaking on condition he not be identified, predicted a decision would be made early this week, probably by Tuesday.

He said Hamadie was thought to be related to a senior security official in Hezbollah (Party of God), a hardline pro-Iranian organisation.

There was no immediate verification, of the report. Hezbollah normally refuses to identify its senior officials by name.

Militia sources said they believed a car was used to block the highway from the airport to Beirut as Cordes was being driven to the hotel.

As his driver slowed down, unidentified gunmen wrenched open the black Mercedes and dragged the businessman out. He was bundled into another vehicle which sped away into the maze of tightly-packed houses in the Shi'ite suburbs.

Last Tuesday, French freelance photographer Roger Auvie was abducted by gunmen while covering the latest visit to Beirut by British church envoy Terry Waite, who is seeking the release of foreign hostages here.

The United States has informally asked Israel and other allies to cut trade with the white supremacist regime. Israel is under pressure to act before President Ronald Reagan's April 1 deadline to submit to Congress a list of allies complying

Gulf war expected to dominate OIC summit

ABU DHABI (R) — Anxious as they may be to see the Iran-Iraq war end, leaders of the Islamic world meeting in Kuwait next week will find it hard to silence the guns booming within earshot of their luxurious conference centre.

Not only has Iran said it will boycott the Jan. 26-28 summit of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), it has also said it will ignore its resolutions.

Yet, leaders of the 46-member OIC will again attempt to end a conflict that has killed or wounded an estimated one million people and disrupted economic activity throughout the region, playing havoc with oil and shipping interests.

Also in Kuwait, just 80 kilometres from the waterfront and whose residents can hear the sound of heavy artillery at night, will be United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. He has said he would be ready to fly to both Baghdad and Tehran if such visits would help.

But as its forces continued attacks on Iraq's second largest city of Basra, Iran last weekend

Iran has repeatedly rebuffed peace efforts by the U.N., the OIC and other organisations. It dismissed a four-point plan approved by an Islamic Peace Committee two months ago and refused to receive an OIC envoy.

The plan called for an immediate ceasefire, the exchange of prisoners, a halt to violations of international agreements and the appointment of a body to determine war guilt.

The nine-member committee will report on its peace efforts to the Kuwait summit.

Diplomatic sources speculate that in the absence of Iran, Arab states may try to persuade its closest Arab allies Syria and Libya to distance themselves from Tehran.

Both have channelled Soviet arms to Iran and lent diplomatic support at Arab and international fairs, the sources say.

Iraq's leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi, recently preoccupied with the fighting in northern Chad, is considered a doubtful starter for the summit and so too is Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

But diplomats still expect Libya and Syria to send delegations.

Col. Qaddafi, reported to be unhappy about Iran's clandestine arms deals with the United States, called the latest escalation in the Gulf war "crazy."

Diplomats say the Arab states will not want to isolate non-Arab Iran and risk damaging future chances for dialogue. Their approach is likely to remain conciliatory.

The Gulf Arab states either postponed or cancelled joint naval manoeuvres scheduled in the Gulf last month out of a desire by at least some of them not to irritate Iran ahead of the summit, one diplomatic source said.

Kuwait, estimated by diplomats to have provided Iraq with more than \$10 billion in the first five years of the war, has made clear it wants Iran to attend the summit.

Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah said Islamic leaders must turn words into action. "Any failure means there will be no more Islamic conferences," he declared.

Israel considers downgrading ties with S.Africa

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel is considering a ban on visits by official delegations to South Africa as a protest against apartheid, a government official said Monday.

But Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir indicated that Israel's sanctions against South Africa would be limited in their scope.

As a diplomatic row over the soldier's death stretched into its second week, Mr. O'Toole told reporters Monday that he took "a very dim view of this way of trying to soften the blow."

Israel offered the compensation last weekend after admitting responsibility for the death of Corporal Dermot McLoughlin, the 21st Irish soldier to die while serving with UNIFIL troops in Lebanon.

Press reports in Ireland referred to a payment of 35,000 Irish pounds (\$50,000).

Israeli Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy said the incident was damaging to Israel. The U.N.

Dublin condemns Israel's offer of money for killing UNIFIL soldier

DUBLIN (Agencies) — Irish Defence Minister Patrick O'Toole has condemned as "conscience money" an Israeli compensation offer for the killing of an Irish U.N. peace-keeping force soldier in the Lebanon.

As a diplomatic row over the soldier's death stretched into its second week, Mr. O'Toole told reporters Monday that he took "a very dim view of this way of trying to soften the blow."

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Press reports in Ireland referred to a payment of 35,000 Irish pounds (\$50,000).

Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry summoned the Israeli ambassador to Dublin to deliver "a strong and trenchant complaint" over the killing.

Now the compensation offer has provoked further Irish outrage, with Mr. O'Toole saying: "The manner in which the offer was made has annoyed me. They could have found more confidential and private ways of doing it."

An Irish Foreign Ministry spokesman said it was a private matter between Israel and the dead soldier's family, who have declined all comment on the

Girlfriend attacks ban on seeing Vanunu

TEL AVIV (AP) — The American girlfriend of an Israeli technician charged with revealing this country's atomic secrets said Israel was undemocratic for refusing to let her visit him in prison, a newspaper reported Monday.

"It was an inhuman act which would be unacceptable in any democratic country like the one I come from," Judy Zimmet, 31, a nurse from Boston, told Yedioh Ahronot.

Miss Zimmet said she felt "terrible" to be turned back from the prison where her boyfriend, Michael Vanunu, was awaiting trial on charges of espionage.

Yedioh quoted her as saying she loved Vanunu and the two had discussed marriage. "We have to talk," she said. "I feel my life has come to a halt because of the separation forced upon us."

Miss Zimmet, who arrived

here several days ago, said Israeli authorities had gone back on a promise to allow her to see Vanunu, Yedioh reported.

The Israeli ban on her visit appeared to be part of a punishment against Vanunu for revealing to reporters that he was abducted by Israeli agents in Rome. Vanunu wrote the message on the palm of his hand and flashed it to reporters en route to court on Dec. 21.

Meanwhile, Vanunu's lawyer Amnon Zichrony told the Associated Press that members of his client's family expressed concern for his health as he entered the 17th day of a water-only hunger strike.

Zichrony said Vanunu's family had failed to persuade him to stop the strike, initially launched to protest the withdrawal of his privileges by prison authorities

after he communicated with the reporters.

The supreme court ordered the authorities to restore some of his privileges but he has been completely isolated from other prison inmates, Zichrony said.

Vanunu's brother, Asher, told the daily Haaretz: "We ask the state and the authorities to protect him and take him out of the isolation into which he was put."

Zichrony said Vanunu was expected to be in good health. He added that prison authorities had placed a camera in his cell to monitor his activities following reports that he was depressed and might try to commit suicide.

Vanunu faces charges of espionage, charges which carry a maximum death sentence, for exposing details of an Israeli atomic plant to the Sunday Times in London last year.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (06) 32300-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS: ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

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NEWS IN BRIEF

GNP for 1986 rises to JD 1918.4m

AMMAN (Petra) — The Gross National Product (GNP) in Jordan was estimated at JD 1918.4 million at market prices in 1986, Director General of the General Statistics Department Abdul Hadi Alawin said on Monday. Dr. Alawin added that the GNP for the year 1985 was JD 1849.2 million, which included JD 256 million of net income from investments abroad. Dr. Alawin added that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) dropped from 131.5 per cent in November 1985 to 131.3 per cent in November 1986, a decrease of 2 per cent.

Cabinet okays training, exchange accord

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has approved a programme for the exchange of expertise and the training of technicians between Jordan and Egypt. The agreement for the programme was signed in Cairo on Dec. 25, 1986.

Jordan to attend Arab council meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the 42nd meeting of the Arab economic and social council due to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Feb. 9 at ministerial level. The council is expected to discuss a number of subjects including a general report on the Arab economy over the past year, a working paper on trade links among Arab states and means of promoting this trade and recommendations passed by the general Arab conference on trade. The meetings are expected to last three days.

GUVS to set up park in Zarqa

ZARQA (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) has embarked on constructing a public entertainment park on a 10-dunum plot of land in Zarqa. The project is expected to cost JD 250,000.

Zarqa starts work on education offices

ZARQA (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has started constructing a new building to house the Department of Education in Zarqa Governorate. The project, expected to cost JD 250,000 is being implemented on a 1,500 square metre plot of land next to the government hospital. When completed, the complex will house offices and conference halls.



MILITARY MATTERS: Armed Forces Commander in Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Iba Shaker (second from left), confers in his office Monday with Lieutenant General Jovan Matovic, an envoy of the Yugoslav defence minister. The meeting was attended by Army Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb (far left) and Yugoslav Ambassador to Jordan, Todor Bojadzhevski. The Yugoslav envoy, who arrived Sunday, is expected to meet other Jordanian officials before his departure on Wednesday.

Jordan's test tube embryos doing well

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Four test-tube babies are expected to be born within the next few months in the first-ever such medical event in the Kingdom, one gynaecologist said Monday.

The doctor, a member of a Jordanian team of gynaecologists who have initiated and performed the project, said that two sets of twin embryos were developing well under close medical supervision.

"As far as the four embryos are concerned, the two cases are developing positively but we cannot reveal any further information until the births have taken place," the doctor said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

The medical team on the project will hold lectures and present research on their unique experiment in the Kingdom at a general medical congress which is due to be held in Amman during March, the gynaecologist said.

babies have been born. To date, developments have been good and we expect the births to take place on schedule, he said. He declined to give the exact date of the expected birth of the two sets of twins who have undergone the same stages of development under the supervision of a fully-equipped centre especially set up for invitro fertilisation operations.

In vitro fertilisation has been developed world-wide over the past decade with traditional religious opposition declining over the years, especially in developing countries.

Several Arab countries have made substantial progress in this field and many test-tube babies have been born through invitro fertilisation, the most effective means for sterile couples to have children.

The first Iraqi test-tube infant recently blew out his first birthday candle. The infant's mother, Mrs. Maha Zahed, had three artificial inseminations before she gave birth to Isam. Forty-eight hours after the third artificial insemination, Mrs. Zahed was pregnant. Successful test-tube baby experiments have also been performed in Kuwait and other Arab countries.

Private sector blocks government move to set up counter trade company

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Mounting pressures and complaints lodged by the private sector against a government initiative to set up a specialised company for counter trade transactions ended in the private sector's favour when the government decided to revoke its decision, a senior Ministry of Trade and Industry official said on Monday.

The proposed and later scrapped institution was expected to start initial operations last December and was designed to cover imports and exports for the public sector and its respective public shareholding companies, according to an announcement issued last July.

Private sector importers were taking a commission of between five to eight per cent on securing the JD 250 million supplies for the public sector (the government), such a company for counter trade transactions would have been a strong blow to our role and businesses," said a seasoned businessman who has been in charge of large imports for the government for 10 years.

According to the July announcement, the projected company's success would have determined whether or not its operations might expand to cover the private sector's import-export affairs.

Another key private sector figure contended that his colleagues would not have minded if the proposed public company's operations were confined to covering Jordan's public sector exports.

"We are not concerned about

country's imports of basic commodities and other supplies, leaving little room for their export-import oriented deals.

According to official estimates, imports for the public sector carried by private agencies and companies reached JD 250 million in 1986.

"If the private sector importers were taking a commission of between five to eight per cent on securing the JD 250 million supplies for the public sector (the government), such a company for counter trade transactions would have been a strong blow to our role and businesses," said a seasoned businessman who has been in charge of large imports for the government for 10 years.

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Another key private sector figure contended that his colleagues would not have minded if the proposed public company's operations were confined to covering Jordan's public sector exports.

"We are not concerned about

organising the exports of the potash company for example," said the businessman who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Not set up to compete"

But the senior ministry official said: "The company was only a means to serve and increase Jordan's exports, rather than to compete with the private sector. However, we had to reverse our decision, which had already been approved, since the private sector fought hard to block the initiative."

The company, with an estimated paid up capital of between JD 300,000 to JD 1 million, was to have been financed by the eight public parties involved in it. The eight sides were: the Supply Ministry, the Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), the Arab Potash Company (APC), the agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO), the Jordan National Shipping Line (JNL), the Ministry of Industry's Trade Centres Corporation and both the civil and military consumers corporations.

A tree for all seasons

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The name Alia Ammouna will probably not be familiar to many art goers here in Amman, but after her exhibition at the Alia Art Gallery this week it should be one that will be remembered. Her debut show in the capital represents a good body of work that is highly pleasing, well crafted and refreshing.

Its theme is trees, not single trees standing alone but forests of them in every kind of light and season. With their slim trunks and curving branches, these woods of saplings are shown in their Winter nakedness with only the snow to cover their feet, and again we see them in their Autumn glory, their canopies a mass of golden yellow. Yet other paintings show them in their full Summer verdancy, while many more catch the freshness of the first green leaves of Spring. All, whether Summer, Winter, Spring or Autumn, are filled with light — a light that glimmers and glints between the swaying leaves to dapple the earth below in an evermoving patchwork of subtle shade.

Light and colour

But what makes Ammouna's paintings different is not only that has she filled them with light, but also with colour. Her rich rhythmic patterns of reds purples,



The splendour of trees captured in many forms by Alia Ammouna

ART REVIEW

depth coming from the clever juxtaposition of different shades while the real depth has been achieved by the application of great and varying thicknesses of paint. One technique enhances the other, the ultimate effect being one of a kind of holographic three dimensionalism.

Forests of people

Ammouna's work, then, seems to be a committed and interesting study of trees and the different effects light plays upon them creating new colours and depths.

But then is it? As one continues to look at her work, the slender trunks and the long, improbably long, tapering branches that gracefully curve and interface, seem to become a metaphor of ourselves. Rooted firmly in our own individualism, our own beliefs and traditions we try nevertheless to reach out for each other. Thus, isn't Ammouna saying, we become like the trees, tenuously linked while remaining basically isolated?

The minister also stressed the need to intensify and pursue efforts with Arab and Islamic funds to support the projects and activities of the ACF.

Addressing the 2nd conference of Arab Contractors Federation (ACF), currently meeting in Casablanca, the minister said the volume of the contracts carried out in the Arab World by foreign contractors reveals the shortcoming in policies followed by Arab countries for offering contracts to foreigners instead of to local contractors.

Mr. Hawamdeh called for achieving joint Arab work and for drawing up an integrated base for the construction and industrial sectors.

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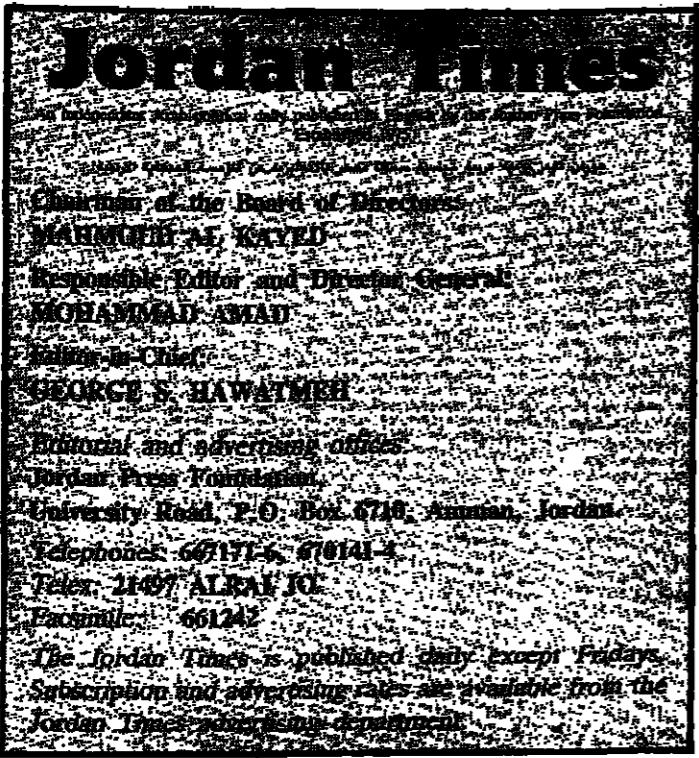
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Sowing seeds of destruction

IRAN'S current attacks against Basra in the southern Gulf war front and at Sumar in the central sector may not be the "final offensive" that Tehran has long threatened, but they certainly look like one last attempt by the Tehran ayatollahs to achieve well-defined political objectives.

The first of these objectives is the widely accepted theory that Iran aims to disrupt preparations for the Islamic summit which is to be held in Kuwait later this month. Depending on the progress of the offensive, Iran would of course move from mere disruption to outright blackmail of the Islamic states attending the summit, particularly the host country, Kuwait, and the other members of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council. The choice of Basra as the focal point of the latest offensive is no coincidence. Kuwait is just down the road; Tehran reckons that Islamic leaders planning to attend the summit would have to revise their travel plans if the Iranian forces made so much as small inroads into Iraqi territory, or even if the Iranians simply fire at Iraqi positions. Why the ayatollahs should want to disrupt or threaten the Arab and Islamic states' meeting in Kuwait is something that observers and analysts do not want to spend too much time on at this stage. But evidently, the Iranian regime sees a strategic need in such manoeuvring, even at the heavy cost of tens of thousands of human lives and much suffering.

Another important objective of the new Iranian offensive seems to be an attempt to mask the serious cracks that are reported to have surfaced within Iranian leadership ranks lately. According to reports filtering out of Tehran, there has been a strong opposition voiced by senior mullahs and other groups inside Iran against the prolongation of the war. This opposition, the reports say, stems from growing doubts inside the ruling Islamic Revolutionary Party itself, about the country's ability to withstand the economic and social pressures of continued warfare. This opposition wants "victory" and not "martyrdom"; unless the regime's advocates of endless war could show some success on the ground, the so-called "moderates" would have to grow bolder and seek ways to end the war their way.

More sinister objectives could be imputed to the recalcitrant leadership of Iran in order to explain its new offensives against Iraq. But, no matter how many reasons Ayatollah Khomeini has for continuing his mad war, the end result will doubtless be the same. He has sown the seeds of his own and his regime's destruction; there is no turning back. We only hope that this last attempt to massacre his own people and others will indeed be his last.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Knifing Israeli occupation

EVERY day brings with it more evidence about the fact that co-existence between the Arab population and occupation rule is an impossible situation. The stabbing of two Zionist extremists in Arab Jerusalem reflects the Arab population's rejection of occupation and their total refusal to accept Israel's hegemony and domination of their destiny and their land. Israel has been striving to force the Arab population to accept Israel's rule and Israel's iron fist policy towards them. For Israel, co-existence means placing Arab territory and Arab future in the hands of the Zionists and depriving the Arabs of their basic rights and freedom. The stabbing of the two Zionists in Jerusalem is a natural reaction to Israel's continued presence by force in Arab land and Zionist arbitrary actions and repressive measures against the Arab population. The Arab population of Palestine who have had long experience about Israel's actions and measures are full of ideas for resisting occupation, and know well how to deal with the Israeli actions and atrocities. The Arab people of the occupied regions can show the Israelis how they repel aggression and how they resist occupation and defend their rights and their homeland.

Al Dustour: Iran rejects U.N. peace call

IT was not surprising at all to hear Iran renewing its rejection of the United Nations Security Council resolutions and the council's call for an end to the conflict with Iraq. Iran has been adamant in its position and has been refusing all bids for peace put forward by various organisations including the United Nations itself. Iran has been in the habit of reacting to United Nations calls for peace by defiantly declaring its hostile attitude towards the Arabs in general and its intention of occupying Iraqi territory in particular. Iran has been adopting such attitude because it realises that United Nations resolutions are nothing but ink on paper, and no real action would be taken to deter it from going ahead with its aggressive policies towards its neighbours. Iran realises that every time it commits a crime against the other countries in the region it escapes punishment from the world community. In addition, Iran has been counting on divisions within the Arab World, and finding solace in the inter-Arab disputes that tend to weaken Arab ranks. Iran is especially encouraged to pursue its aggression on Iraq by continued support it receives from certain Arab states which have been supplying arms to the Iranian regime. As we said, we are not surprised by Iran's actions but rather by the attitudes of certain Arab countries and by the continued divisions among Arab leaders.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iraq defends the nation

IN its continued and obstinate fighting against the Iranian aggressors, Iraq has been transformed into a formidable fortress, defending the Arab Nation and thwarting the dreams and ambitions of the Iranian regime. The people of Iraq is living through the most crucial time in their history and the armed forces who have been fighting the enemy for seven years have scored legendary successes and victories over the aggressors and the invaders. Every Iraqi is fully alerted to defend the homeland and every soldier is willing to sacrifice his soul for this noble cause. The Iraqi-Iranian conflict has drawn the attention of certain people who are keen on protecting Arab land; and perhaps King Hussein's been the first voice to be raised in the Arab World, calling on Arabs to defend Iraqi territory and so protect Arab order from the looming danger. The heroic struggle which the Iraqi people are waging in the face of the Iranian onslaught should prompt the whole Arab Nation to take immediate action and to rally forth in defence of Arab territory now being exposed to external aggression.

Lessons from the U.S.-ANC dynamic

By Rami G. Khouri

I was intrigued, and pleased, to hear the announcement a few weeks ago that United States Secretary of State George Shultz would meet in Washington this week with the leader of the African National Congress (ANC), Mr. Oliver Tambo. The United States for many years steadfastly refused to have any contact with the ANC, professing that it was a movement that engaged in violence and had dubious contacts with the Soviet Union.

The American change of policy on contacts with the ANC was slow to materialise, but now that it has taken place it is appropriate to commend the United States for a move that is eminently sensible in moral terms, and constructive in political terms.

When asked why the United States now sought to make the ANC a major player in the South African diplomatic equation, a State Department spokesman sensibly replied that the United States was not making the ANC a major player, but that the ANC already was a player that had to be figured into the political action.

I raise the point not so much because of its implications for the South Africa situation, but rather for the interesting parallel between the U.S. contacts with the ANC and U.S. lack of contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The obvious question that presents itself is: If Washington has started a dialogue with the ANC, why doesn't it start a similar dialogue with the PLO? Are there similarities between the two situations? Should Arab moderates take heart from the American-ANC dynamic, and expect that it is not long before Washington and the PLO sit around a table and talk about topics of mutual interest?

It would be naive to jump to optimistic conclusions. But the Shultz-Tambo meeting should certainly be taken for a significant move forward by the United States — a courageous and realistic move that we should applaud.

There remain, however, substantial differences between the American view of the ANC and the American view of the PLO — differences that highlight the capacity of the United States to engage simultaneously in a policy of enlightenment and realism in one part of

the world, and of hypocrisy and cowardice in another.

The United States has always maintained that it would never engage in dialogue with the PLO until the PLO accepted Israel's right to exist and renounced the use of violence and terror. No such criteria of political legitimacy have ever been laid down for American talks with the ANC, however. One wonders: Why?

The answer lies not in the realm of morality, because the moral claims of the black South Africans for equal political rights in their own country and the Palestinian claim for self-determination in Palestine are more or less identical.

Rather, the answer lies in the realm of political expediency. Within the American political context, it is politically more productive to support the ANC rather than the white minority government of South Africa. Conversely, it is more fruitful for an American politician to support Israel's rights over the Palestinians' right of national self-determination.

The interesting thing about the U.S.-ANC move, in my view, is what it shows about the capacity and the fact of change in Washington's policy. It is noteworthy that the American government did change its policy, and has initiated contacts with the ANC at the highest level, after refusing to do so for many years.

Is there room, therefore, for morality in the conduct of foreign policy — even for delayed-action morality that takes many years to self-activate? The ANC held firm to its position and refused to bow to American demands. In the end, the United States saw the light and reached out to the ANC.

The PLO and the Arabs as a whole, without exactly jumping for joy, should take heart from this development and learn from the ANC's track record. It is interesting how close the PLO and the ANC are in their adherence to political programmes that seek to achieve the national rights of their people, while also accepting the political and human rights of their enemies.

Just as the ANC has repeatedly assured the world that white South Africans would enjoy rights and one-person one-vote privileges in a

democratic South Africa, so has the PLO offered political programmes over the years that are based on the rights of Israelis and Palestinians to share the land of Palestine according to the same principles.

When the American-Israeli combine rejected the Palestinian proposal of a secular democratic state in all of Palestine, in which Christians, Muslims and Jews would have equal rights, the Palestinian national movement and the Arab states offered the idea of Palestinian-Israeli coexistence in two separate states — the Israelis within their pre-1967 borders, and the Palestinians in a sovereign state in the West Bank and Gaza, perhaps confederated with Jordan or other Arab states.

This, too, has been generally rejected by the American and Israeli leadership over the years. The Americans still insist that the PLO must first recognise Israel's "right to exist" before the PLO can be engaged as a credible diplomatic partner.

Why has the United States, then, suddenly embraced the ANC as a diplomatic protagonist, without having asked the ANC a priori to recognise the legitimacy of the white minority government of South Africa? Why has the United States talked to the ANC without demanding that the ANC cease its armed struggle in South Africa?

Good questions, I would have thought, for an American nation that prides itself not only on its diplomatic fortitude, but on the fact that its diplomacy is based on a foundation of consistent moral principles. Perhaps after Mr. Shultz comes out of his meetings with Mr. Tambo next week, he might give us some answers.

He has shown, in his dialogue with the ANC, that he and his country have the capacity to apply the principles of what is morally right in policies that are politically productive. One looks forward to the application of this same strand of ethical politics to American involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Or will the decision to talk to the ANC simply accentuate the double standards that the United States has always applied to the Palestinian people and their national rights?

Defence chief cites

U.S. goals in Middle East, South Asia

From USIA

WASHINGTON — U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger told Congress that, in the Middle East-South Asia region, the United States aims to thwart Soviet aggression, preserve access to energy resources, reduce opportunities for destabilisation of friendly states, prevent the spread of armed conflict and bring about an Arab-Israeli accord.

The American goals were laid out as Mr. Weinberger presented his annual report to the Congress in an appearance before the Senate Budget Committee January 13.

In the eastern Mediterranean, the report says, the United States is trying to defuse Syrian-Israeli tension and to support "a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

It terms the six-year-old war between Iran and Iraq a threat to the economic health of regional states and their western trading partners. A challenge facing the United States, it notes, is to help U.S. friends in the region preserve their freedom and "to ensure free world access to Gulf oil, if need be by countering threats from the Soviet Union."

Mr. Weinberger warned about "the willingness of several nations" to employ terrorism as an instrument of national policy. The United States must counter and discourage such activity, he said.

The secretary reported that in recent years the U.S. has strengthened its military ability to respond to threats in Southwest Asia, the Middle East, South Asia and North Africa. Further, he said, negotiations are continuing with countries in the area to reach cooperative agreements for mutual support of forces and the prepositioning of essential supplies, have been underway and are continuing.

3— Exercises and training

The keystone of our training programme in this region is the Bright Star /Accurate Test exercise series. (Bright Star is conducted in odd-numbered years and Accurate Test in even years.)

In assessing major regional military balances and threats in the world, Weinberger listed the Middle East-Southwest Asia region as "an inviting target for Soviet expansionism." But, he added, the improved capability of the United States to get military forces into the region quickly "helps to deter Soviet attack." At this point the secretary stressed the need for cooperative "defensive military strength" with friends and allies in the region, should deterrence fail.

We have established several bilateral consultation groups to improve defence cooperation between the United States and friendly states in Southwest Asia, the Middle East, South Asia, and North Africa. These groups meet periodically to consider issues ranging from combined planning for joint exercises to

addition, Iranian support for subversion threatens the stability of the entire region. Our challenge is to help our friends in the region preserve their freedom and to ensure free world access to Gulf oil, if need be by countering threats from the Soviet Union.

Throughout Southwest Asia, the Middle East, South Asia, and North Africa, we are confronted by the willingness of several nations (in and outside these regions) to use terrorism as an instrument of national policy. Not only must we counter the terrorist threat; we must also discourage certain states from supporting such activity.

2— The recent record

In recent years, we have improved our capability to respond to threats in Southwest Asia, the Middle East, South Asia, and North Africa. The readiness of forces who could be called on to operate in the region has improved. Those forces are continuing to receive more modern equipment. Our capability to deploy them rapidly continues to grow, and we are in the final stages of a comprehensive revitalisation of our Special Operations Forces (SOF).

Improvements in our ability to defend regional interests hinge on access to friendly territory and facilities during crises. Negotiations to reach agreements for access and mutual support of forces and arrangements for the prepositioning of essential supplies have been underway and are continuing.

4— Special programmes

Outside the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) programme, we are cooperating with several regional states such as Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan, Egypt, India, and Israel to improve their defence capabilities and enhance the abilities of U.S. forces to respond to contingencies. Examples of such cooperation are the continued deployment of E-3 AWACS aircraft in Saudi Arabia to support regional stability and freedom of navigation in the Gulf; an agreement with Oman that allows us temporary access to its facilities in the event we are asked to respond to a regional crisis; and defence industrial cooperation programmes with Egypt and Pakistan. With Israel, we have the Free Trade Area Agreement, which guarantees Israeli access to U.S. markets, and the U.S.-Israel Memorandum of Agreement, which allows Israel to compete with U.S. firms for DOD contracts, and U.S. firms to compete for Israeli government contracts. U.S. personnel also contribute directly to the preservation of peace in the Middle East by serving as members of the multinational force in the Sinai. To improve India's defence production capability, we have agreed to assist in efforts to develop a

light-combat aircraft, antiaircraft systems, and a national test range. We have also agreed in principle to allow for the transfer of advanced computers, subject to certain safeguards.

Major regional balances

The Middle East-Southwest Asia Balance

The Middle East/Southwest Asia region's critical geostrategic location, its considerable petroleum resources and its proximity to the Soviet Union combine to make it an inviting target for Soviet expansionism.

The Soviets maintain significant

ground and tactical air forces in the region. Our continuing plan to assist regional states to maintain their independence and the extremely difficult terrain partially offset these advantages. Furthermore, we estimated that the long lines of communications the Soviets would have to maintain to control the region's oil-producing facilities would be vulnerable to both air and unconventional ground interdiction, and would require a substantial investment in personnel to ensure local security.

As with other regions, our national security objectives in the Middle East and Southwest Asia include: deterring and, if necessary, defending against Soviet aggression; countering Soviet moves to gain power and influence; and protecting free world access to resources. Since 1981, we have improved our capability for projecting military forces quickly to the region. We have built up our potential force allocation to more than six ground divisions and over 600 tactical aircraft, and we now have the capability to deploy rapidly about four divisions (largely through our acquisition of U.S.-based fast sealift and maritime prepositioning in the Indian Ocean). To test these forces and our rapid-deployment concepts, we have conducted a number of successful exercises with friendly regional states. Part of our continuing plan to assist regional states defend more effectively against Soviet aggression calls for the forward deployment, in peace-time, of certain Central Command forces. To date, political problems and access limitations have limited our success. Regional states' awareness of the range of threats to their security, however, has made them receptive to our military assistance programmes, foreign military sales, and military exercises.

Our improved capability to project significant forces quickly into the region helps to deter Soviet attack. Should deterrence fail, we could successfully defend the region with substantially fewer ground forces than the Soviets would need to seize and occupy it. Provided our forces are heavily supported by tactical air, we would need to be supported by our friends and allies in the region and elsewhere by nations whose very existence depends on the West's continuing access to the oil fields. We would need to come to rapid accord with them regarding access and host nation support, and the continued flow of defensive military strength for our defensive military operations.

The immediate Soviet threat to the region in a global conflict consists of 30 active ground divisions, including some 5,450 tanks, over 1,400 fixed and rotary wing tactical aircraft, and numerous mobile missile launchers. Long-range bombers from air and naval units stationed outside the Southern Theatre of Military Operations could also be directed to interrupt our

communications and to seize and hold key objectives such as our potential force allocation to more than six ground divisions and over 600 tactical aircraft, and we now have the capability to deploy rapidly about four divisions (largely through our acquisition of U.S.-based fast sealift and maritime prepositioning in the Indian Ocean). To test these forces and our

spokesman Larry Speakes says it will be some time in February, at the earliest, before Reagan holds a press conference to do so. The official added, arguing that the administration's best strategy is to try to get out all the facts and promise to fix whatever was wrong. Both of whom have invoked constitutional protections against self-incrimination and refused to answer questions in Congress — and as them what they knew because that would subject them to criticism that he was trying to be the "defence attorney, prosecutor, judge and jury," the official said.

Instead, the White House seems content to let the story unfold from congressional investigations and eventually from the investigation by independent counsel Lawrence Walsh and his staff of former prosecutors.

"There is nothing you're going to do that gets us behind you. There is no big-bang solution," said one White House official, speaking privately.

Reagan will not call in former aides John Poindexter and Oliver

I'm trying to find, too, what happened."

At the risk of portraying Reagan as being out of touch, White House officials have gone out of their way to emphasise that not only was he unaware that arms-sale money going to the Contras, but that he also had almost a hands-off attitude toward approving the arms shipments.

A White House official at a briefing for reporters distributed copies of a 2 1/2-page memorandum presented to Reagan in January 1986 setting out the administration's rationale for selling arms to Iran.

A note scribbled on the document showed that Reagan did not even read the memo but "was briefed verbally from this paper."

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Australian media face shakeup after takeover battle

By Francis Daniel
Reuters

SYDNEY — The Australian media face a far-reaching shake-up with business tycoon Rupert Murdoch poised to gain control of the country's largest newspaper group, market analysts said on Jan. 16.

Murdoch emerged the winner of a six-week battle for the group, the Herald and Weekly Times (HWT), when his arch-rival, Robert Holmes A Court, announced a decision to withdraw his takeover bid.

Murdoch, born in Australia but now an American citizen, would have to make major structural changes to the group to adhere to the broadcasting and television act which restricts foreign ownership of local broadcasting interests to 15 per cent, the analysts said.

Government legislation is also pending in parliament to restrict ownership of newspapers and television and radio stations, which would further place a burden on Murdoch's expanding Australian media empire, they

said.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke gave an assurance on Jan. 16, that there would be no government intervention as long as Murdoch's takeover met all legal requirements.

Holmes A Court said in a radio interview that a single trans-Atlantic telephone call with Murdoch in New York helped reach a "sensible compromise" in the multi-billion dollar battle that has rocked the Australian stock markets.

Under the compromise, Holmes A Court will give up his interests in HWT in favour of Murdoch, who has offered 2.3 billion dollars (1.6 billion U.S.).

But Murdoch would sell to Holmes A Court HWT's subsidiary West Australian Newspapers Ltd. and its television station in Melbourne for \$400 million dollar (300 million U.S.).

Holmes A Court, regarded as the richest man in the country, would make an estimated profit of 100 million dollars (65 million U.S.) selling his HWT holdings to

Murdoch, who owns the world's largest media empire, including major newspaper and broadcasting interests in the United States and Britain, would gain control of about 75 per cent of the Australian media industry, market analysts said.

The deal would also restore a family connection — Sir Keith Murdoch, the tycoon's father, headed the Herald group until his death in 1952. A Sydney newspaper commented that Sir Keith was still regarded as the patriarch of the organisation.

"It would be wrong to deny that it is an emotional moment for me," Murdoch said when he first announced his bid for the HWT on December 3.

HWT controls 14 metropolitan newspapers in five state capitals and television stations in Melbourne and Adelaide. Murdoch already owns News Corporation, the second largest domestic media group.

Describing the sudden end of the see-saw takeover battle, Holmes A Court said: "All the

essential ingredients were agreed within a single telephone call."

"It was possible because Rupert Murdoch is a clear thinker and he is not petty in his commercial negotiations. Both of us gave way and reached a sensible compromise."

Holmes A Court agreed, however, that Murdoch's acquisition of HWT would involve "some restructuring" to meet media ownership regulations.

The Trade Practices Commission (TPC) has also been looking into the takeover bid, but Holmes A Court said these

hurdles could be overcome without much difficulty.

The takeover has created a public controversy with journalists', trade union and community organisations expressing fears over a growing concentration of the domestic media.

The Australian Journalists Association (AJA) said the Holmes A Court-Murdoch deal did not alter its opposition to the takeover and it would take the issue to the TPC.

Eureka catches Europeans' imagination

By Milan Ruzicka
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Eureka,

Europe's high-tech cooperation programme, has made a better-than-expected start in streamlining national research, officials

say. Daniel Cloquet, an official at the Union of EC Industries (UNICE), said he prefers a maximum of 30 per cent to come from governments, but that financial aid is not the programme's best drawing card.

"At least, not yet. Many companies think the most important element is the commitment by governments to ensure the commercial success (of Eureka research)," he said.

"This role of a matchmaker is probably more important than money, especially for small and medium-sized firms," Cloquet said.

He said private loans and venture capital will be the largest sources of funding, outside government subsidies and the participants' own financial commitments. UNICE wants public financing for Eureka projects to depend on the technological and financial risks and not to exceed 30 per cent, he said.

The EC commission, which wants to launch its own 7.7-billion-ECU (\$8.3-billion) five-year high-tech research programme, has given Eureka a lukewarm welcome. Publicly, the commission, a Eureka member, says its programme would complement Eureka's.

But privately, officials complain Eureka encroaches on EC

territory and draws public funds away from research that would benefit the entire EC, rather than participating companies only.

One official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said more than half of Eureka's 72 initial programmes at least partly duplicate EC-backed research.

France and West Germany each have pledged more than \$200 million to Eureka, far more than any other country, and are among the staunchest opponents of the EC programme.

Researchers seeking EC funds complain of complex rules for participating in its programme, saying they are forced to publish their findings and are granted only limited ownership rights to their inventions.

Eureka, on the other hand, is fairly unstructured. It has no headquarters apart from a sparsely decorated office in Brussels that serves as a secretariat.

Any government, even those outside Europe, can join without having to participate in a project. Canada has earmarked \$20 million for Canadian companies that may want to join Eureka.

The EC official said that because of this loose structure, companies might use Eureka participation as a cloak for anti-competitive activities.

Who rules Britain? Behind politicians are the Mandarins

By James M. Perry
The Wall Street Journal

LONDON — In an episode of "Yes, Prime Minister," BBC-TV's smash comedy show, Sir Geoffrey Hastings, head of Britain's ultra-secret spy-catching organisation, comes calling on Prime Minister Jim Hacker with an appealing tale.

"One of his predecessors as head of MI5 was himself a spy, Sir Geoffrey reveals.

"How much did he tell the Russians?" asks the prime minister.

"That hardly matters," says Sir Geoffrey, noting that with all the traitor-spies that preceded him there wasn't much left to tell. "The point is, he was one of us. He joined MI5 straight out of Oxford. Been in the civil service all his life."

The fictional colleague in the TV show was a "mandarin." Mandarins — and surely they are all patriots these days — do exist in real life. While other countries' may have their own civil-service elites, the mandarins are uniquely British; there is nothing else quite like them. There are 41 of them, permanent secretaries at the top

of the civil-service heap-of-secrecy, privileged, highly educated.

Real ruling class?

Some critics maintain they are Britain's real ruling class, responsible in no small measure for the nation's political and economic decline since World War II.

They have been in the news lately. The greatest mandarin of them all, Sir Roger Armstrong, the cabinet secretary and head of the domestic civil service, recently spent a lot of time and energy attempting to convince skeptical Australian judges that a book by a former MI5 agent shouldn't be published. Down Under because it contains high-risk information and would encourage other retired agents to peddle their memoires.

Nice touch in the truth-may-be-stranger-than-fiction department: The book suggests that the late Sir Roger Hollis, a former head of MI5, was a Soviet agent. The Australians enjoyed the spectacle of the elegant Sir Robert squirming under cross-examination by Malcolm

Tumblott, a hard-nosed Australian lawyer representing Peter Wright, the retired MI5 agent who wants his book published. A judge is expected to rule soon.

Sure one day to enter standard books of quotations was Sir Robert's admission that sometimes in his role as chief mandarin he had to be "economical with the truth."

Who are they?

So who are these mandarins (the name, used informally, originally referred to senior bureaucrats in the old Chinese empire)?

They are very high-ranking, permanent civil servants who lay out the options to the politicians. They aren't supposed to make policy, but they often point their bosses subtly in the "right" direction.

Sir Frank Cooper, a former permanent secretary at the Defence Ministry, says they represent continuity. "Politicians come and go. The permanent secretaries are there for life," he says.

Clive Ponting, a high-ranking civil servant for 15 years until he was arrested, tried — and

acquitted — for leaking state documents to a member of Parliament, says the selection system has hardly changed since it was first devised 130 years ago. It involves a highly selective complex of tests and interviews by senior civil servants that tends to favour candidates from Oxford and Cambridge. And it yields, he says, an "amateur administrative elite" in an age that requires highly skilled professionals.

The successful mandarins," says Peter Hennessy, a British political commentator, "rise to the top as masters of ceremony for the ministers."

Sir Robert Armstrong is a classic example. He went to Eton College and then on to Oxford, where he studied Greek and Latin. He's famous for his memos, until not long ago writing them with a quill pen. Civil servants, he once said, "are those who serve the Crown with the pen rather than the sword."

But Sir Robert may be a bit of a museum piece. He was attached to joining the civil service may be breaking down. "Everybody at Oxford and Cambridge," says Mr. Hennessy, "now wants to be a merchant banker."

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The following are needed by the UNESCO Regional Office for Education for the Arab States:

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- (b) draft routine correspondence in Arabic and English
- (c) maintaining office files, answer queries and receive visitors

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary education and secretarial studies
- (b) considerable experience and good knowledge of secretarial work
- (c) typing in English and Arabic at test standards
- (d) ability to take dictation in English
- (e) good knowledge of English and Arabic with ability to draft routine correspondence and to prepare summary translations.

(2) DUPLICATING MACHINE TECHNICIAN (Grade L2, approximate basic starting salary: JD 1800 per annum).

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- (a) to operate the offset machine and other equipment for reproduction and photocopy
- (b) to keep in good order materials, instruments and equipment
- (c) to carry out reproduction with economy and speed.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary education or equivalent (as a minimum) with training and studies relevant to the job
- (b) very good knowledge of Arabic and English — knowledge of French an advantage
- (c) ability to draft and type in English and Arabic
- (d) substantial experience in administrative and financial functions preferably in accounting and personnel administration in international organisations.

(2) SECRETARY (Grade L3, approximate basic starting salary: JD 2300 per annum)

DUTIES: Bilingual secretary to the Director and the tasks include the following:

- (a) assembling relevant data and information and maintaining office records and files
- (b) preparing the appointments and programmes and keeping track of matters requiring the attention of the Director
- (c) normal secretarial duties including taking dictation and typing in Arabic and English
- (d) drafting of routine correspondence and the preparation of summary translations of documents and reports
- (e) organising the meetings called by the Director.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary school (or equivalent) with study and training in secretarial work
- (b) very good knowledge of English and Arabic. Knowledge of French an advantage
- (c) shorthand and typing in English and Arabic at test standards
- (d) adequate experience as secretary preferably with experience in accounting and budgetary control in international organisations.

(3) CLERK/TYPIST (Grade L3, approximate basic starting salary: JD 2300 per annum)

DUTIES include:

- (a) typing of correspondence, monthly accounts statements and the payment and receipt vouchers.
- (b) replacing the Admin. Assistant during his absence in the preparation of monthly accounts, keeping the books and budgetary control
- (c) drafting routine correspondence and maintaining financial and administrative records
- (d) typing in English and Arabic
- (e) assisting in the organisation of meetings and training courses

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary education and secretarial studies
- (b) training or experience in office administrative functions
- (c) very good knowledge of Arabic and English
- (d) ability to type in Arabic and English and stenographic skill in one language
- (e) experience in an international organisation is an asset.

Detailed applications should be sent to the following address:

Director,
UNESCO Regional Office for Education for the Arab States
(UNEDBAS)
P.O. Box 2270 Amman
Closing date is 28 January 1987.

ADVERTISEMENT (2) EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS AND SECRETARIES:

The UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology for the Arab States requires the following:-

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (Grade L7, approximate basic starting salary: JD 4700 per annum). DUTIES: include the following :

- (a) preparing monthly accounts, keeping books and records of all expenses and budgetary control
- (b) preparing disbursement and receipt vouchers in accordance with UNESCO procedures
- (c) maintaining office inventory, records of property and log book of vehicles
- (d) supervising the correspondence registry and follow-up of decisions
- (e) supervising clerks, secretaries and drivers
- (f) arranging travel of experts and assisting in the organisation of meetings and training courses.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary education or equivalent (as a minimum) with training and studies relevant to the job
- (b) very good knowledge of Arabic and English — knowledge of French an advantage
- (c) ability to draft and type in English and Arabic
- (d) substantial experience in administrative and financial functions preferably in accounting and personnel administration in international organisations.

(2) SECRETARY (Grade L3, approximate basic starting salary: JD 2300 per annum)

DUTIES: Bilingual secretary to the Director and the tasks include the following:

- (a) assembling relevant data and information and maintaining office records and files
- (b) preparing the appointments and programmes and keeping track of matters requiring the attention of the Director
- (c) normal secretarial duties including taking dictation and typing in Arabic and English
- (d) drafting of routine correspondence and the preparation of summary translations of documents and reports
- (e) organising the meetings called by the Director.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary school (or equivalent) with study and training in secretarial work
- (b) very good knowledge of English and Arabic. Knowledge of French an advantage
- (c) shorthand and typing in English and Arabic at test standards
- (d) adequate experience as secretary preferably with experience in accounting and budgetary control in international organisations.

(3) CLERK/TYPIST (Grade L3, approximate basic starting salary: JD 2300 per annum)

DUTIES include:

- (a) typing of correspondence, monthly accounts statements and the payment and receipt vouchers.
- (b) replacing the Admin. Assistant during his absence in the preparation of monthly accounts, keeping the books and budgetary control
- (c) drafting routine correspondence and maintaining financial and administrative records
- (d) typing in English and Arabic
- (e) assisting in the organisation of meetings and training courses

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- (a) secondary school (or equivalent) with secretarial and accounting study and training
- (b) very good knowledge of English and Arabic — knowledge of French an advantage
- (c) shorthand and typing in English and Arabic at test standards
- (d) sufficient relevant experience preferably in organisations or units having international relations.

Detailed applications should be sent latest by 28 January 1987 to the following address:-

Director,
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Lendl survives challenge to advance to quarterfinals

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — World no. 1 Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia had to survive a testing workout Monday before overcoming American Dan Goldie to advance to the last eight of the \$1.65 million Australian Open tennis championships.

Lendl had to fight for almost three hours before downing the rookie professional 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 (9-7), 6-3.

Three other top players also made their way into the men's singles quarterfinals.

Defending champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden, the fourth seed, celebrated his 21st birthday with a lopsided 6-1, 6-0, 6-1 fourth-round triumph over 13th seeded American Robert Seguso.

Sixth-seeded Czech Miloslav Mecir and ninth-seeded Anders Jarryd of Sweden also moved into the last eight.

Mecir earned a meeting with Edberg by scoring an impressive 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Australian Peter Doohan, ranked 29th in the world, 6-1, 6-7 (2-7), 6-4, 7-6 (7-2).

No women's singles were scheduled Monday, the eighth day of the tournament, which is being

Goldie said he was encouraged by his performance. "I always feel I could play with the top pros and now I know I can," he said.

Jarryd was always in command against Doohan, who was extremely competitive, but ultimately outgunned.

The Swede, playing a singles tournament for the first time since September after being sidelined by injury, had mixed feelings about the match.

"I was satisfied with the way I played, but disappointed I let him into the match in the second set," he said.

Edberg, aiming to win a Grand Slam tournament on grass for the first time, kept his nerve and concentration and clinched the third set with a remarkable diving drop volley after bravely staying off four set points.

Edberg's birthday victory was aided by an injury to Seguso's left knee. The American had said before the match that he felt he had no chance of defeating Edberg because of the injury.

Seguso, who was playing his first tournament for five months, will undergo an operation on the knee next week.

Edberg next meets the tall 22-year-old Mecir, who holds a 3-1 career record against him and beat him in straight sets at Wimbledon last year.

Second seed Boris Becker had a day off Monday, giving him an opportunity to recover from a sore throat. He faces Australian Wally Masur in his fourth-round match Tuesday.

Stars and Stripes earns chance to challenge Australia for America's Cup

FREMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Stars and Stripes claimed its place in the America's Cup finals Monday when it beat New Zealand by one minute, 29 seconds and continued the Americans' drive toward yachting's biggest trophy.

New Zealand hit the buoy on the final rounding while moving to overtake Stars and Stripes and the American boat sped off to the finish line.

Stars and Stripes won the best-of-seven challenger finals 4 to 1 and will face an Australian boat in the final series starting Jan. 31.

In the best-of-nine defender finals, Kookaburra III overcame a broken backstay on the fifth leg and defeated Australia IV by one minute, 13 seconds to go ahead 4 to 0 in their competition.

Both Australian boats flew protest flags.

Stars and Stripes led the challengers' race by 36 seconds after the sixth leg of the eight-leg Indian Ocean course. But the next leg was downwind and New Zealand was close enough to steal the powerful breeze from the leader.

Chris Dickson steered his boat into position to cause the spinner on Dennis Conner's Stars and Stripes to flutter toward the end of the seventh leg.

Conner's lead was cut to just nine seconds as Dickson appeared ready to round the buoy. Instead, New Zealand banged into the mark. The boat had to re-round the mark and lost all the ground it had gained on that downwind run.

By the time New Zealand could get around the mark again, it was behind by 39 seconds and Conner was home free.

Stars and Stripes had lost the start by one second but charged 42

seconds advantage on the first beat to windward. But on the second beat, a powerful 28-knot wind ripped Conner's Genoa and New Zealand cut the margin to 14 seconds by the end of that leg.

It was down to eight seconds after the first reach, but back up to 16 seconds at the next rounding as New Zealand attempted to change a spinner.

In the defenders' race, Kookaburra II's lead was just six seconds after the second leg then it boosted the advantage to 53 seconds on the third leg, heading into the wind, and it never dropped below 50 seconds at any of the remaining marks.

"It's pretty tough to see a dream finished," said Michael Fay, New Zealand's syndicate head.

Euro soccer roundup

Maradona charges injury was 'malicious' damage

LONDON (R) — Diego Maradona, whose footballing career lurches between moments of triumph and agony, claimed his latest injury setback in the Italian Soccer League Sunday amounted to malicious damage.

The Argentine World Cup captain's face, contorted either by joy or pain, is a familiar image. The photographs adorning Monday's Italian newspapers, news and sports pages, unmistakably portrayed a man in difficulty.

Napoli, Maradona's team, beat Brescia 2-1 to stay top of the Italian League. This fact, though, was secondary to the state of Maradona's left ankle, into which two metal screws were inserted in 1983 and which failed him again Sunday when he was carried off after 61 minutes.

"Obviously Brescia knew of the problems my left ankle had been giving me over the past few days and they tormented me," he said. "Was it deliberate? I don't know, but it was certainly malicious. Such things shouldn't happen between people in the same business."

Maradona is expected to be fit to play Udinese in two weeks' time but said he had been advised not to play in a charity match for a South American selection in Japan next Saturday.

Internazionale stayed second in the table, two points behind Napoli, with a 2-0 win over Empoli, the newly-promoted side who began First Division life

impressively but is now in the lowly category.

AC Milan, though, lost 1-0 to struggling Ascoli, who had not won at home for seven months, and dropped from third to sixth accompanied by cries of "incredible" and "diabolical" from the media.

Roma's miserable goalless draw against Como was not relieved by news that Polish defender Zbigniew Boniek would be out for a month after breaking a toe in

the first half.

In Spain, Real Madrid beat Real Sociedad 2-0 with goals by Spanish internationals Rafael Gordillo and Ricardo Gallego to retain second place two points behind Barcelona, who crushed Athletic Bilbao 4-1 on Saturday night.

Barcelona was in outstanding form at home to Bilbao, with British strikers Gary Lineker and Mark Hughes both scoring.

Englishman Lineker scored first, his 10th league goal of the season, to put Barcelona ahead in the 17th minute from a cross by Francisco Carrasco, who scored the second. Welshman Hughes added the third, Roberto Fernandez's header accounted for fourth while Bilbao's Israel Urbieta cut the deficit with a long-range shot.

Real Betis stopped third-placed Espanol's five-game winning sequence with a 2-0 home win, the goals coming from Luis Gail and Argentine striker Gabriel Humberto Calderon.

Milwaukee downs Atlanta

NEW YORK (AP) — John Lucas, in his last chance to play in the NBA, wasted no time taking advantage of it.

Lucas, signed by Milwaukee on Saturday after 10 months away from professional basketball because of cocaine addiction, played a key role Sunday in the Bucks' 100-91 victory over Central Division leading Atlanta.

He had 12 points, team-high seven assists and hit a three-pointer with 1:50 left to put Milwaukee ahead to stay.

"When you've played for 10 years in this league, you know what to do on the court," Lucas said of his success.

Ricky Pierce led the Bucks with 20 points, while Mike McGee had 24 for Atlanta. Dominique Wilkins, who missed part of the game with a knee injury, was held to 18.

Lakers 115, Bullets 101

Magic Johnson went 6 for 6 in the fourth quarter as Los Angeles outscored Washington 32-20 in the final 12 minutes to beat Washington. Johnson scored 11 of his 26 points in the first six minutes of the final period. Jeff Malone scored 27 and Moses Malone 21 for the Bullets.

Celtics 122, Rockets 99

Boston won for the 11th time in 12 outings as Larry Bird scored 32 points. In their first meeting since last year's NBA championship series, the two teams stayed close for most of the first half until a 15-6 surge early in the third quarter then gave the Celtics a 77-59 advantage and they coasted to victory.

Warriors 116, Blazers 103

Golden State won at Portland for the first time since Dec. 8, 1981 as Joe Barry Carroll scored 36 points and Eric Floyd added 33 points and 10 assists.

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and from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m.

HOUSE FOR RENT

A unique, newly-built house consisting of two storeys and a roof. Located in West Amman at Al Rabie Estate. The first storey consists of 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, two salons. The third storey with the roof consists of 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, two kitchens, desk-room and 4 salons. Each storey has its own phone and central heating.

If interested call 666666

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE PESSIMISTS PREVAIL

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦K10 32
VK82
♦AKQ73
♦6

WEST
♦Q987
V6
♦1052
♦AKQ73

EAST
6 16
V10 954
2 6
4 9 8
♦J 8 7

The bidding:

North East South West

1 0 Pass 1 0 Double

2 V Pass 2 6 Pass

3 4 Pass 4 5 Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

When your contract appears easy, look for the weak, invisible screen. Then take a look to see if you can develop counter-measures.

Once West made a black-out takeout double, North decided there was no point in showing his spade suit; instead, he settled for a heart raise. South's spade bid was an attempt to steer the contract into three no trump if North held a club guard. When North now raised spades, South bid the heart game in case his partner held four-card heart support. We are im-

pressed with East's decision not to double. He could not be sure four spades wasn't a better contract, and he felt no need to alert South to the fact that trump were not breaking.

West led the king of clubs and shifted to a trump. Declarer won in dummy and, if trumps were no worse than 4-2, the play would be simple. Declarer can win with dummy's long cross to hand with the jack of diamonds, ruff a club and draw two more rounds of trumps, leaving a master trump outstanding. Then he could run diamonds and the most the defenders could get would be two club tricks and a trump.

The threat to the contract, however, lay in the possibility of a 5-1 trump break. Could that be handled?

Declarer found the way. He won the trump on the table, came to hand with the jack of diamonds and ruffed a club. The ace of spades provided the entry for another club ruff. As the cards lay, the defenders were helpless. East did the best he could by ruffing the third diamond and exiting with a spade. Declarer won in dummy and led a good diamond, discarding his last spade. Whether the defenders did, East's good trump was the only other trick they could collect.

Argentina wins Pele Cup

SAO PAULO (R) — A goal from centre forward Dario Felman two minutes into the second half earned Argentina a 1-0 win over Brazil in the final of the Pele Cup veterans' international soccer tournament.

Felman's goal — a gift from Brazilian sweeper Djalma Dias — snatched victory for the Argentines after they had been forced to defend for much of the game on Sunday.

But goalkeeper Carlos Buttice produced an inspired display to deny the Brazilians time and again.

"Argentine soccer is in a state of grace," legendary Brazilian star

Giovanni Mazzola of

Argentina replaced Carols Babington with Rafael Albrecht after 20 minutes — the midfielder having pulled a muscle — and continued to contain the Brazilians until the end.

But two minutes after the restart, Dias hit a weak backpass to his goalkeeper Renato to present Felman with the chance to break the deadlock. The alert striker rounded Renato with ease before stroking the ball into an empty net.

A goal down, the Brazilians attacked furiously for the remainder of the game but Buttice and the Argentine defence stood firm.

Brazilian captain Rivelino said afterwards: "I played with Buttice as Corinthians and, frankly, I don't remember having seen him play so well as he did today. He beat us by himself."

Argentine coach Carmelo Farao said his side had not deserved to beat Brazil Sunday but were worthy winners of the first world soccer championship for seniors.

"Brazil were superior today. But no one can forget that we had beaten Brazil before (3-1 last Sunday) and that we scored 10 goals in five matches, so we average of two per game," he said.

S. African pulls away to take Houston Marathon

HOUSTON (AP) — Derrick May of South Africa pulled away from his final challengers in

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.5335/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3581/86	Canadian dollars
1.8110/20		West German marks
2.0425/35		Dutch guilders
1.5165/75		Swiss francs
37.60/65		Belgian francs
6.0650/0700		French francs
1.290/1291		Italian lire
150.60/65		Japanese yen
6.5000/50		Swedish kronas
7.0400/50		Norwegian kronas
6.8750/8800		Danish kronas
One ounce of gold	421.50/422.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices fell back in line with the lower opening on Wall Street, which was hit by the weakness in the dollar. Dealers said the lower dollar was having a direct negative impact on internationally traded equities here.

News of an unexpected £1.22 billion provisional repayment to the U.K. public sector in December, against forecasts of a £500 million repayment helped to lift the market in moderate trading to midsession.

By 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was at its low on the day at 1,776.0, down 13.0 on Friday's close and well below the high of 1,788.4 at 1210 GMT achieved after the PSBR news.

The PSBR figures gave a cumulative borrowing requirement in the first nine months of the fiscal year of £4.5 billion, against £7.6 billion in the same period last year. News of a higher than expected 0.2 per cent rise in November U.K. industrial output also helped shares rally from their morning lows.

Oil shares, which have been helping the market move up in recent sessions, faltered Monday. News of an escalation of the Gulf war was raising worries about stability in OPEC.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 20, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Wind up some of the specific items that have been requiring your attention. Be thoughtful and considerate of other persons. Don't give in to angry thoughts.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle the usual routines today. Be careful in outside affairs so that you maintain your poise.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make plans for recreation in the near future. Be more cooperative instead of argumentative with co-workers.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get your home running smoothly in the morning, but be careful not to overspend for entertainment tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get busy at vital communications. Turn to persons who can help to bring more order into your home.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Financial affairs can be handled wisely. Take care that you drive carefully, especially in the evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can easily gain the things you want the most. You can't rely on a financial wizard, so don't be disappointed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You know exactly how to gain a wish tonight. Don't be too forceful with others in making headway.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) It would be wise to follow the advice of a good friend in order to gain a personal aim. Don't break promises.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure to handle civic duties during your spare time. Avoid a noisy group of friends.

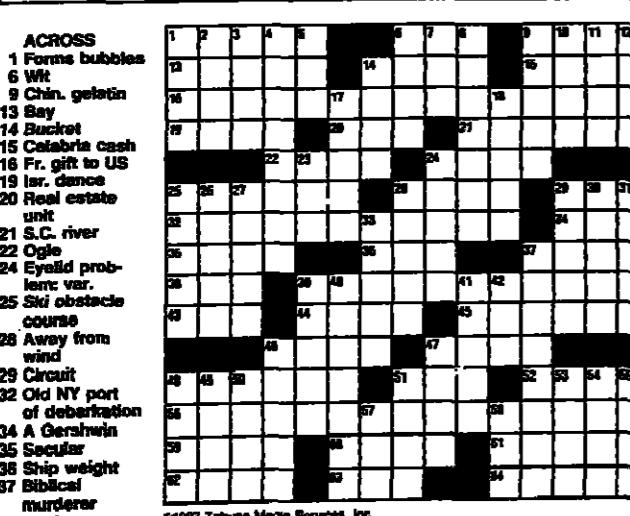
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Do something about the new ideas that assail you. Take no risks with your credit or good name.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Do something thoughtful for your mate. Don't get fooled by any new contacts you've made.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try not to upset your mate and make every effort to maintain peace. Take it easy tonight.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will do very well at studies and will have the ability to set up a plan and carry through with it successfully. Teach this one the importance of cooperation. Sports are good for building up the health and energy in life. This book worm will be a stickler for neatness.

THE Daily Crossword



China expels top scientist from Communist Party

PEKING (R) — China has expelled top scientist Fang Lizhi for causing last month's national student protests by advocating a Western-style democratic system for China, the official New China News Agency said Monday.

Fang, a 51-year-old scholar who has won numerous international awards, was sacked last week as vice-president of the university in the east China city of Hefei where the demonstrations for more democracy and freedom of speech began.

Fang, hailed by some students as China's equivalent to Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov, is the second party member to be expelled following the protests which also led to the resignation of party chief Hu Yaobang last Friday.

Leading liberal writer Wang Ruowang was expelled last week for advocating Western ideas in his speeches and writings.

The agency said the party decision had listed "facts showing that he is no longer qualified for party membership," including statements by him that Marxist-Leninism was out of date and of no use as a model for China.

The party statement said that besides stirring students to make trouble, Fang — one of the most brilliant scientists of his generation — had also tried to incite intellectuals against the party, causing "grave consequences."

It said he made many public speeches in recent years which advocated bourgeois liberalisation in opposing the

powerful economic organisation said.

Mr. Tian, on the second day of a 10-day official visit to Japan, told economic leaders China would continue its "open-door" external policy and modernisation of agriculture, industry, defence and technology, the spokesman for Kedlareen — the Federation of Economic Organisations told Reuters.

Chinese students had said that besides actively promoting democracy in his own college, Fang made speeches in campuses in Peking and in the eastern cities of Hangzhou and Shanghai, where tens of thousands took to the streets late last month.

The party statement said students in Hefei demonstrated a day after Fang told them: "Democracy is not a favour bestowed from above, and it should be won by people's own efforts."

It also accused of trying to Westernise China completely and quoted him as saying: "I am for the idea that everybody should join the party to change its true colour. I officially declare that I will change the party."

Before his public disgrace, Fang was hailed by an official academic journal as the kind of intellectual China needs and party officials have in the past also cited him as an "exemplary Communist."

Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun said in Tokyo Monday recent student demonstrations in his country will have no effect on Peking's basic policies, a spokesman for Japan's most

6 hurt in Brisbane mailroom blast

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — A package exploded Monday at a mail sorting office and injured six people. An anti-Turkish group claimed responsibility, but police said firecrackers may have gone off accidentally.

The explosion ripped through the Roma Street Mail Exchange at 11:30 a.m., destroying the ground floor, just as sorter Frank Rich placed a large parcel on his desk for examination.

Rich, who was working on overseas parcels in the exchange's customs section, was reported in critical condition at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. Five other workers received minor injuries.

An Australian Post spokesman said there might have been more casualties had the explosion not occurred as shifts changed.

Customs officer Robert Shackleton said he was upstairs when the explosion occurred.

"I was lifted about six inches off my feet. We thought a piece of the mail machinery had exploded and saw smoke coming through the floor," he said. "The air was thick with smoke and the smell of gunpowder."

"People were smashing windows trying to get out," he said.

Police said it may have been a suitcase that exploded.

The building was cordoned off while police and army bomb disposal units checked the building for additional explosives. They exploded another suitcase in a pile of parcels to be processed, but found only clothes inside.

An anonymous telephone caller to the Associated Press in Sydney claimed responsibility on behalf of the Greek-Armenian-Bulgarian Front.

"We are against the growing ties between Australia and Turkey," the man said, and threatened more bombings.

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